

Trees on Maine Street

∞ The Project Canopy Bulletin ∞

Nov-Dec 2015

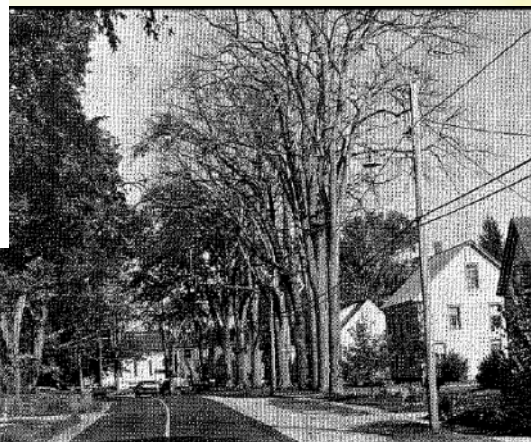


DUTCH ELM DISEASE

Since the first finding of Dutch elm disease in Maine in the town of York in 1952 it can now be found wherever elm grows in Maine. During the biennium, it was found in Calais, the last municipality with numbers of elms to become involved.

Fifty-seven municipalities participated in the state cooperative program during 1971-72. Nine dropped out since 1970, due to failure to fund or meet program requirements. On the other hand, some nearly doubled their annual appropriation. State appropriation was \$73,000 each year; municipal requests for reimbursement totalled \$73,191 in 1971 and \$65,243 in 1972. A total of 9,369 diseased elms were removed and 1,121 elms pruned in the community sanitation programs. A total of 32,952 elms have been removed under the cooperative program since its start in 1955.

State reimbursement to municipalities remained 20% on bid contracts and



The Dutch elm disease continues to kill Maine shade elm trees as this 1972 photo taken in Buckfield shows.

A look back into the Archives. An excerpt from the 1970-71 Biennial Forest Commissioners report gives an update on the spread of Dutch Elm disease in Maine, as well as the beginnings of the Maine Shade Tree program.

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10% on non-bid. An attempt in mid-1971 to increase amounts to 30% and 15% had to be retracted in order to share funds for all municipal requests.

Attention was given to showing municipalities improved methods of scouting for diseased trees and potential bark-breeding elmwood. Both years had severe ice storms which left large numbers of elms with broken branches and limbs which act as attractive breeding places for elm bark beetles which spread the fungus. This was especially true in southern and coastal areas. Thomaston, Rockport, and Camden sought unsuccessfully to obtain federal disaster funds.

Benomyl (Benlate) fungicide was registered for use in 1972 either as a foliar spray or trunk injection and reportedly is directly adverse to the fungus. Variable results with its use indicate a need for more research before it can be recommended. \$1,000 was granted to the University of Maine for benomyl research.

The smaller European elm bark beetle (*Scolytus multistriatus*) was found at Gardiner and Paris Hill. Thus, its northerly distribution in Maine can now be delineated by a line from Norway-Paris easterly to Gardiner and Camden. Releases of the European parasite (*Dendrosoter protuberans*) of this bark beetle were made in 1965 and 1969. Attempts to recover progeny from these releases have yielded no success to date.

SHADE TREE PLANTING

The 104th Legislature, during 1969, enacted a law providing for state assistance to municipalities for planting public shade trees. Initial support to

PROJECT CANOPY

assists communities and nonprofit, grassroots organizations in building self-sustaining urban and community forestry programs with strong local support.

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To read the latest Forests for Maine's Future Newsletter

<http://www.forestsfomainesfuture.org/new-from-the-woods/>

News and Updates

Some Tree! No, That Tree!

Congratulations to American Grove's 2015 Great American Tree Competition winner That Tree, a famous Bur Oak located across from 1276 Airport Road in Platteville, WI. 53818. 53' tall, with a canopy 75' wide. This tree is featured in the book *That Tree* by Mark Hirsch, who photographed it every day for a year resulting in a book that chronicles a year in the life of the tree. He has continued to photograph the tree and posts the photos on his Facebook page at www.facebook.com/photosofthattree.



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Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program – 2016 Request for Proposals is Open!

On November 3, 2015 the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) announced an RFP for this public-private partnership, funded in part by EPA's Wetlands and Urban Waters Programs and the US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service and in conjunction with the Urban Waters Federal Partnership.

Approximately \$2.1 million in combined total funding will be available to support projects such as stormwater management, addressing water scarcity, source water protection as well as wetlands, riparian, forest and water quality protection and restoration projects in local communities especially underserved communities across the country. In 2016, the Urban Waters Federal Partnership will give special consideration to projects which directly advance priorities of the 19 Urban Water Federal Partnership designated locations. For more information the priorities of the 19 designated locations, go to: <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaterspartners/news-about-urban-waters#projectbackgrounds>. The geographic boundaries of the designated locations can be found in the RFP on the NFWF website.

NFWF will host a webinar for potential applicants on November 18, 2015. This RFP closes February 3, 2016.

For more information go to www.nfwf.org/fivestar.

Earn Up to \$20,000 by Applying for a 2016 TD Green Streets Award

TD Green Streets supports innovative practices in urban forestry. The program will offer a total of \$200,000 in awards in support of local forestry projects in low- to moderate-income (LMI) neighborhoods. Funding can go towards the purchase of trees, tree planting and maintenance, education and training opportunities. The maximum amount of each award request is \$20,000. Not more than 50% of the total project funding can be designated for new trees.

To be eligible for a TD Green Streets award, municipalities must be a current (2014) Tree City USA community within TD Bank's United States footprint. A listing of eligible communities, information, requirements, and the application can be found at tdgreenstreets.com.

Grant applications are due November 20, 2015.

November:

15 Walking tour of Crocker Family Forest, Exeter. 989-6158
18-19 Arbor Day Foundation Partners Conference, Denver
19 Restoring the Mayflower II: The need for large trees, Wells Reserve, 626 7990

"My roots are in the depths of the woods."

- Galle

Standish logger nominated as best in the Northeast

Even though Maine is the most forested state in the nation, some people are surprised to find out that not only is logging taking place in southern Maine, it also presents a unique challenge.

"Even loggers up north don't think there's logging in southern Maine," Tim Wing says.

The Maine Forest Products Council (MFPC) has nominated Richard Wing & Son Logging of Standish for the Northeastern Region Outstanding Logger Award, given by the Forest Resources Association. The Wings already were honored as MFPC's Outstanding Logger in 2014 and as the state's Certified Professional Logger in 2001.

Richard Wing, 64, and his son Tim, 42, practiced sustainable logging before anyone even called it that.

"I've always been a conservative in the logging business," Richard Wing says. "Sometimes people ask, 'Why is that big tree there?' I tell them if you leave a mixture of sizes of wood then you can come back in eight or 10 years and take some of them."

Lynn Wing, Richard's wife, runs the office with help from Sara, Tim's wife. The family business produces 3.4 million board feet of saw timber, 18,000 tons of pulpwood and 22,900 tons of biomass (for energy) annually.

"They're not only outstanding loggers, they're also great ambassadors for sustainable forestry and they're dedicated to helping their community," says Patrick Strauch, MFPC executive director.

While northern Maine logging is often conducted on a large scale, lots in southern Maine are small, so logging takes place in neighborhoods and close to roads. Many landowners in southern Maine have little knowledge or experience with forest management, so the family helps educate not only landowners, but also their neighbors. The bulk of their work takes place within a 30-minute drive of Standish, which is part of the greater Portland metropolitan area with nearly 40 percent of the state's population.

"Every time he's working with a different landowner," says Howard Charles, a former Sappi forester who's worked with Richard Wing for decades. "You can't predict what they want. So he has to listen carefully to their objectives and how they want their operation done. He's in the public eye all the time and aesthetics are a huge issue for him."

Did you know you can always find the Forest & Shade Tree - Insect & Disease Conditions for Maine online?

Visit http://maine.gov/dacf/mfs/publications/condition_reports.html

Tim Wing admits that working in the public eye can "be pretty tricky." People hear the noise of the machinery and come to ask questions or watch. Dog walkers cut through woodlots.

"People are always checking us out. Most of the people down this way are worried 'Is it a housing development?' I've been sworn at a few times," Tim Wing says with a laugh.

Long-time client John Phinney of Gorham, who owns about 4,000 acres, has great confidence in the Wings.

"He and his son Tim do a good, clean job. When they get done there's minimal slash and waste left over. They utilize the trees well and find good markets for the products," Phinney said.

The Wings have cut Alan Hawkes' 800-plus acres since the mid-1980s. "They're about as honest as they come," Hawkes says. "They do a great job in the woods. They clean up after themselves. I mean they leave it better than it was."

The Wings, who live in Gorham, are very active in the community, holding logging demonstrations, donating shavings for the library's garden and sponsoring the Bonny Eagle High School baseball team.

In addition, they're currently working with state Sen. Bill Diamond, co-chair of the Legislature's Transportation Committee, who has put in a bill to make the laws regarding weights for pulp trailers consistent with other Maine laws.

"I think they're wonderful people," Diamond said. "They're such solid citizens for one thing, but they also are a shining example of how a family business can and should be run. They're willing to work seven days a week, as many days as it takes. They're highly respected and they care about the community." - From Maine Forests Products Council

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the Department's proposal and to the Legislature came from municipalities, civic, conservation and garden clubs. It was a most important and progressive step to improve the urban environment by replacing shade trees lost in extensive numbers to diseases, insects and adverse growing conditions. Maine became the first state in the Nation to provide funding for shade tree planting.

The first appropriation was for \$25,000 for the fiscal year 1970-1971. During the spring of 1971 38 municipalities planted 1,751 trees at an average cost of \$28. per tree planted. The state contributed \$15. or 50% of the cost per tree planted, whichever was the lesser.

The 105th Legislature appropriated \$50,000 for FY 1971-1972 and \$75,000 for FY 1972-1973. In the spring of 1972, 57 municipalities planted 2,818 trees at an average cost of \$24. per tree planted. More municipalities have indicated plans to participate in 1973 programs. Fall planting is being considered to enlarge on the time available for good planting conditions.

"No town can fail of beauty, though its walks were gutters and its houses hovels, if venerable trees make magnificent colonnades along its streets."

- Henry Ward Beecher, Proverbs, 1887

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Community Wrap-up

INTRODUCING YOUR Newest! MFS DISTRICT FORESTER

Now that autumn is upon us, it's a good time to ask: "Do you know who your District Forester is?" There are currently 10 Maine Forest Service (MFS) District Foresters, covering the entire state. A new Forester has started in the Northern Aroostook County area.

District Foresters are the Maine Forest Service's point persons for contact with woodland owners, loggers and foresters, and the general public. District Foresters lead educational workshops and woods tours, talk to school children and community groups, and work with private foresters and loggers to implement good woodland management. Most important, they can meet with you in your woods, and help you take the next step to achieve your goals for your land.

Randy Lagasse, Ashland

Randy received his Associate Forestry degree from University of Maine, Fort Kent. He has worked in the forest industry for over thirty years, as a Timber Stand Improvement contractor, consulting forester and a forestry instructor. Before joining the Maine Forest Service Randy served as a Bureau of Public Lands field staff member. He is from Fort Kent and now resides

*"Going to the woods is going home."
- John Muir*



with his wife Kristen in Presque Isle. Randy has always enjoyed the great outdoors of Maine and finds forestry to be a fulfilling career. He enjoys winter sports, gardening and camp life.

Randy's contact information and the towns he covers can be found [here](#).

As always, you can call the Maine Forest Service for more information or assistance at 800 367-0223 (in state) or (207) 287-2791, or e-mail forestinfo@maine.gov



Source: Sustainable Forestry Initiative

*"Each generation takes the earth as trustees. We ought to bequeath to posterity as many forests and orchards as we have exhausted and consumed."
- J. Sterling Morton*

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